

From: glolrol@charon.npc.net@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Renata B. Hesse,

Open-source organizations should be granted the same protections that commercial organizations are granted in the settlement. Open-source software provides great benefits to the software industry. It is a sensible alternative to the never-ending upgrade "treadmill" that many software companies force upon their customers. Apache, the web server software used by twice as many web-sites as Microsoft IIS, is open-source software.

Even though Apache is twice as common on the internet, it doesn't have anywhere close to the number of security problems that IIS has. Problems such as the Nimbda, and similar worms. Apache is simply better!

Microsoft perceives this as a threat. Current language specifying that only commercial concerns are eligible for API information will no doubt be used by Microsoft to shut out open-source developers from the vital API information that they need. This would have the unintended effect of enhancing Microsoft's monopoly power.

API disclosure needs to be public with no strings attached. A "Microsoft API" web site would fit this need with minimal staffing/administration required on Microsoft's part.

Thank you for your consideration.

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